

National Resource Centers and
Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships

EUROPE & RUSSIA

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Abstracts
International Education and Graduate Programs Service
US Department of Education
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University of California, Los Angeles
Center for European and Russian Studies

Description: The Center for European and Russian Studies (CERS) provides a pan-European perspective for scholars and students from a wide range of disciplines. Originally established in 1957 as a Center for Russian and East European Studies, it reorganized in 1993 to reflect the shift in teaching and research toward an expanding and increasingly integrated European community. It is imperative, with the end of the cold war, that Europe be treated as a single political, economic and cultural entity, and CERS was among the first area centers to do so. CERS promotes teaching and research by internationally acclaimed specialists of Western, Central and Eastern Europe, including Russia, and fosters cross-country and cross-disciplinary collaboration among the social sciences, humanities, professional schools, and libraries.

Mission: CERS is committed to training teachers and leaders of the future. Its goal is to promote academic excellence in teaching, research and outreach, to serve as a regional resource center, and to collaborate with educational and cultural institutions throughout Southern California. CERS programs place particular emphasis on curriculum development, support of graduate and undergraduate students and faculty, and ongoing training of K-12 teachers. Its primary goal is to train European area specialists for the academic, private, and government sectors.

Degree Programs: BA and MA in European Studies.

Languages and Disciplines: 18 modern European languages taught with proficiency-based techniques at 3-4 levels. 16 major disciplines and interdepartmental programs, 7 professional schools as well as numerous secondary fields have specialists and offer courses on European topics.

Faculty: 62 core and 22 supportive European language faculty. 41 core and 91 supportive European area faculty in non-language departments and programs. 4 core and 19 supportive faculty in the professional schools.

Enhancement Activities: Numerous annual events, including public lecture series, luncheon seminars, public fora, workshops, film series, and academic conferences. Study abroad programs at 64 institutions in 12 European nations. Fellowships for graduate dissertation research, language study, and conference participation. 10-15 visiting scholars and faculty annually.

Library: Second in the nation according to the Association of Research Libraries ranking. 3 million monograph titles in the humanities and social sciences. German, French, Italian, Russian, Southeast Europe/Balkan, and Scandinavian collections most significant in U.S.

Outreach: Programs for local secondary schools and community colleges, including the Summer Institute for Educators, the History-Geography Project, a website forum for teachers, a curriculum resource library, and a speakers' program. Regional higher education institutional collaboration, including the Southern California Consortium on International Studies, graduate student and faculty workshops, and language and curriculum workshops. Cooperative programs with regional business and cultural organizations, such as the World Affairs Council, the LA County Museum of Art, and the local European consulates.